(c) what steps are proposed to be taken so that money earmarked for welfare of vulnerable sections of society are properly utilised?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) No Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ministry has been emphasizing States/UTs to strengthen the monitoring mechanism so as to ensure that funds earmarked for tribal development are properly utilized.

Tribals demanding withdrawal of forestry project in Madhya Pradesh

1202. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribals are demanding withdrawal of Madhya Pradesh Forestry Project funded by the World Bank;

(b) if so, the cause of their agitation; and

(c) the action envisaged towards ensuring the survival of both forests and forest communities of tribals in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) Mass Tribal Organisations (MTO) of Madhya Pradesh has asked the World Bank to discontinue Madhya Pradesh Forestry Project (a World Bank assisted project) and not to consider Madhya Pradesh Forestry Project Phase-II for funding, due to the project being harmful to the interest of the tribals. The contention of the MTO has not been found to be correct by the State Government.

Budgetary provision for Tribal Welfare

1203. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost Rs. 700 crores were provided in the budget for the tribal welfare during 1998-99 and 1999-2000; and

(b) if so, the details of budget allocation for various tribal projects programmes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM):

(a) The budget allocations for tribal Welfare during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are Rs. 551.00 crores and Rs. 630.00 crores respectively.